PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7:

G01N 33/49

(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/60351

(43) International Publication Date: 12 October 2000 (12.10.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/02718

(22) International Filing Date: 28 March 2000 (28.03.00)

(30) Priority Data: M199A000652 30 March 1999 (30.03.99) IT

(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: SITAR, Giammaria [IT/IT]; Corso Partigiani, 32, I–27012 Certosa di Pavia (IT).

(74) Agent: GERVASI, Gemma; Notarbartolo & Gervasi, Corso di Porta Vittoria, 9, I–20122 Milan (IT).

(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE SEPARATION OF FETAL CELLS FROM THE MATERNAL PERIPHERAL BLOOD

(57) Abstract

The present invention refers to an improved method for the separation of fetal cells circulating in maternal blood during pregnancy, wherein blood cell densities are modified by transferring maternal blood into a non-physiological liquid and then the cells are separated by a discontinuous density gradient centrifugation, for prenatal non-invasive genetic investigation.

